

It seems to be a shame that at a time when as independent, micro-market radiocasters are struggling with being more and more engaged in our community activities (such as Exceptional Rodeo, Rotary and many others) that the governmental regulators are looking at putting an additional tier of "cost" on our backs.

In California, we already are operating in a less than desirable environment with Workers Compensation, increasing insurance costs (yeah, we do provide medical, dental and vision for our employees even though we are family-owned). it's curious that the Federal Government is looking to require additional costs to radio in the form of equipment and personnel.

If there was a benefit to our listeners or to our company, it would something to consider the benefits of. However, to my understanding, this does not qualify as a "benefit" to any of our customers. In fact, just the opposite. It would provide the opportunity for those who are not happy or content with simply "switching the dial" to another radio station the vehicle to reduce the number of voices available in the community.

As a third-generation radiocaster and owner, I truly believe that we more than meet anyone's standards as a responsible radiocaster. It's a shame that anyone is considering this effort as a way to reduce the chance for small, family-owned radio stations to make a go of it and "encourage us" to entertain the overtures made by group owners to sell because of the financial squeeze that continues to come at us from all sides in the form of government-related costs.

It's just a shame.

As you may guess, our organization is not pleased with this current interest to force yet another cost of doing business on us. The result would be less resources available to do what we do best: local community radio.

Here's an addendum comment made by one of our staffers: As far as I'm concerned a thousand dollars is a economic hardship, then to replace it when it's busted, add a trip by the engineer to hook the thing up and another job for me maintain the thing and imagine the work generated by a call from someone who wants to hear what was said at around 8 or 9 o'clock on June the 3rd or it might have been the 4th, or could you just listen to the whole thing? I think someone said a bad word on our station, or it could have been the TV in the other room.

Brian